

### **REMARKS**

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed May 20, 2004. At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-27 were pending in this Application. Claims 19 and 20 were rejected. Claims 1-18 and 21-27 were allowed. Claim 19 has been amended to further define various features of Applicants' invention. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

#### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112**

Claims 19 and 20 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting a gap between the steps. Claim 19 has been amended to overcome these rejections and respectfully request full allowance of Claims 19 and 20 as amended.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants note with appreciation that Claims 1-18 and 21-27 are allowed.

#### **Information Disclosure Statement**

Applicants enclose an Information Disclosure Statement and PTO Form 1449 with references and a check in the amount of \$180.00 for the Examiner's review and consideration.

### **CONCLUSION**

Applicants have now made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of Claims 1-27 as amended.

Applicants believe there are no fees due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

ATTORNEY DOCKET  
091078.0995

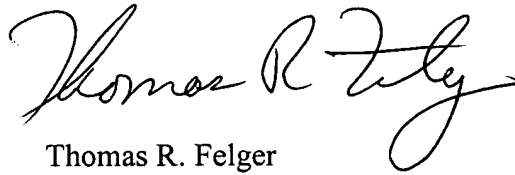
PATENT APPLICATION  
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If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicants' attorney at 512.322.2599.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorney for Applicants



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SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Baker Botts L.L.P.

CUSTOMER ACCOUNT NO. **05073**

512.322.2599

512.322.2501 (fax)

Date: 14 JULY 2004

Enclosure: Information Disclosure Statement with PTO Form 1449 and references and check for filing fee.